था और जो सरकार ने अब तक उत्तर दिए हैं उससे यह स्पष्ट नहीं हो पा रहा है कि अगर ऐसी धनराशि का दुरुपयोग होता है, जबकि शर्त यह है कि स्वयं सेवी संस्थाएं मुनाफा कमाने के उद्देश्य से गठित नहीं होंगी और वह मुनाफा जो अर्जित करती हैं उसका उपयोग वह कैसे करती हैं, उसकी एकाउंटेबिलिटी सरकार के स्तर पर स्थापित कैसे होती है, कोई प्रक्रियाएं, कोई यंत्र, कोई प्रशासनिक शाखा इसके लिए कार्यरत है? इसी संदर्भ में हमने यह जानना चाहा था कि जहां तीन पंजीकरण के लिए शर्त है, जो अलाभकारी होगा, लाभ कमाने के उद्देश्य से नहीं होगा अगर ऐसे मामले सत्यापित हुए हों तो क्या उसके पंजीकरण निरस्त किए गए हैं, समाप्त किए गए हैं? अगर नहीं किए गए हैं सरकार ऐसी स्वयं सेवी संस्थाओं की पूरी जांच किसी विशिष्ट अधिकारी से या यंत्र से कराना चाहेगी?

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN: Sir, it is entirely for the State Government to take action in the matter. I don't think that the Central Government can possibly intervene. If it is the Bihar Government which has permitted this kind of a thing, the Bihar Government itself will look into the matter. If it is an accountable exercise of the powers vested in them, certainly they will be able to take action.

डा० जगन्नाथ मिश्र : महोदय, क्या जनता के पैसे का दुरुपयोग होता रहेगा और सरकार क्या ऐसे ही देखती रहेगी और अपनी शक्ति को परिभाषित करती रहेगी कि सरकार की शक्तियां हैं या नहीं? क्या सार्वजनिक कोष का दुरुपयोग करने दिया जाएगा?

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN: We can reply on behalf of the Central Government for any transactions with which the Central Government is directly concerned. If it is the Bihar Government which has given the permission, let them go into it. I cannot possibly say anything in abstract. It depends upon the kind of situation, upon the kind of incident which took place. I cannot give any abstract reply.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 242.

Criticism of MoU with Oman by experts

*242. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:†
SHRI SARADA MOHANTY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that MOU signed by Petroleum Deptt. with Oman regarding supply of gas has been widely criticised by experts in the Press;

(b) whether Government have effectively replied to the critics of MOU;

(c) whether the MOU is renegotiable, and

(d) whether Government would demand reduction in price of gas if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No price for the gas has been agreed with Oman.

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Sir, largely the reply of the Minister is "No, Sir," Does not arise and "No, Sir." Sir, the Minister has said that there was no criticism at all with regard to the MOU signed with Oman. Sir, I put this question because there was a strong criticism in certain articles. But, I am not able to locate them just now. So, the Minister may unnecessarily land himself on charges of misleading the House. But, I am not

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Chimanbhai Mehta.

on that at the moment. (Interruptions). That can be raised afterwards. I will find out the clippings.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Why should the Minister mislead the House? He is giving the facts.

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: I am coming to that. Sir, there was a criticism in the Press about this MOU that although there are huge deposits of coal which can serve the country for thousands of years, but gasification from coal is not being done and gas is being imported. Oman demanded 3.5 dollars per BTU and our price of gas is much less. I would like to know from the hon. Minister why gas is not being produced from the coal. What is going to be the investment? There is hazard to the pipeline which may be torpedoed by other countries during war time. So, why is that option not being considered at all? Also, why is Oman charging such a high price, that is, 3.5 dollars per BTU?

CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA: Sir, I would welcome my hon. colleague back to the House along with the clippings, which he has misplaced somewhere, for a detailed discussion on the alleged criticism as regards MOU. To the best of my understanding, Sir, this MOU has been one of the most welcome MOUs in this country since it has been signed mainly because of the wide gap that is existing between the supply of and demand for natural gas in this country. Now, as regards the other point which the hon. Member has raised, that is, about paying an excess amount of money for the gas to be supplied, Sir, let me assure the hon. Member that no price has been settled as yet. In fact, right now we are at a very crucial stage where one of the principal terms is, in fact, the price. The principal terms, namely, price, contract period, minimum quantity and delivery points, are under negotiation. Sir, the hon. Member's suggestion regarding gasification of coal, unfortunately, does not come under my purview, but it is within the purview of the Coal Ministry. But, to the best of my understanding, I thing the Coal Ministry is moving towards that direction; it is taking up the coal-based gasification project. I think they are seriously considering this aspect and that is one of the measures being taken by our country to meet the demand for natural gas. Sir, to give an idea through you, to the hon. Member, we are looking at a scenario where the registered demand for natural gas with the Gas Authority of India Limited is 260 million standard cubic metres per day and our projection is that by the year 2000 A.D., we can produce 80 million standard cubic metres per day. So, this must give you an idea of how our position is. If we have to have industrialisation in our country, we have to fuel our industries and we cannot afford to be lagging behind. We are making all efforts to procure gas not only from Oman and Iran but we are also making efforts within our country. What we need to understand in this context is about the growing demand for fuel by industries all over the country including the hon. Member's State, Gujarat.

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Sir, I sincerely appreciate the efforts of the Government in meeting the demand for gas in our country, so also the statement that has been made by the hon. Minister generalising the demand for gas. But, Sir, I raised a question regarding the price that is being asked for, namely, 3.5 dollars per million BTU. That question has not been answered. Before I move on to the next supplementary, would the Ministry clarify whether they have asked for 3.5 dollars per million BTU. This is important and this is related to my first supplementary..

CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA: Sir, I have mentioned about it earlier and I, without any hesitation, would like to reply to this specific query made by the hon. Member. Sir, when gas price negotiations are going on, from where did he get the figure of 3.5 dollars? Is it from the hon. Member's own imagination or is it from the press clippings

which he had kept at home or wherever they are? Let me assure the hon. Member that one of the principal terms is price and this is being negotiated right now. We have reached a very crucial stage. We are discussing gas pricing Regarding gas pricing, we are in touch with the user Ministries. We have asked them for their comments as to what they feel the price should be. This is the stage at which we are now. There is no proposal such as the 3.5 dollar.

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Minister is asking me a question...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister has said that the price has not yet been determined. Then, how can he answer it?

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: No, that is not the point here. As a second supplementary, I ask a specific question ..(*Interruptions*)...This is my supplementary.

My specific question is, that is being asked by the Omen company for a unit of gas and what is your counter offer? At least, you say the price that they are demanding and what you are going to give. This is my specific question because out of this this could have resulted.

CAPT. SATISH SHARMA: As I mentioned earlier, on the issue of gas pricing, the user Departments have been requested to indicate an acceptable price range and the quantities they require. We are hoping to take a final view before September. Unless the price is right, we will not accept it. Our policy is to have a market-related price. Any formulation which they will make and which is market-related is acceptable to us. This is the policy which we have been following for exploration as well as other co-related programmes. Our experts have been working on various formulations on this issue.. (*Interruptions*)..

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Let him not say will this... (*Interruptions*).

CAPT. SATISH SHARMA: At this stage, it is not proper for me to share with the House the information as to what is being demanded, what we are offering, etc.

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: The entire country knows what they are demanding.

MR. CHAIRMAN. Mr. Surinder Kumar Singla. Mr. Singla, you wanted to put a question.

SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman, Sir. I would, in fact like to congratulate the hon. Minister for rushing for this MOU because the country need a large amount of gas. As he himself has mentioned there is a large gap between the demand and the supply. We have to augment the supply position. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he is intending to explore prospective domestic fields for generating more gas in the country itself. This is my question.

CAPT. SATISH SHARMA: Sir, I compliment the hon. Member for asking me this question because this is a very important question for India. Our effort, first of all, should be to find as much gas and crude as possible within the country or outside the country, as in the case of Vietnam and other countries to whom we are looking now. Through our prospecting efforts, if a reserve accretion takes place, a part of it will belong to our country. I am glad to inform the hon. Member that only a few days ago, we got the Caibnet clearance to spend Rs. 6,500 crores in the next three years. This is in addition to what was planned by the ONGC and the OIL to spend on exploration. We have got the Cabinet clearance to spend Rs. 6.500 crores of additional money under what we call the National Exploration Plan which is under way for the next three years. This additional money goes ex-

actly into that area to find more gas and more crude within the country.

WELCOME TO PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION FROM NAMIBIA

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, I have an announcement to make.

We have with us, seated in the Special Box, Members of a parliamentary delegation from Namibia, currently on a visit to our country under the distinguished leadership of His Excellency Mr. Kandy Nehova, Chairman of the National Council of Namibia.

On behalf of the Members of the House and on my own behalf, I take pleasure in exending a hearty welcome to the leader and other members of the delegation and wish our distinguished guests an enjoyable and fruitful stay in our country. We hope that during their stay here, they would be able to see and learn more about our parliamentary system, our country and our people, and their visit to this country will further strengthen the friendly bonds that exist between India and Namibia. Through them, we convey our greetings and best wishes to the Parliament and the friendly people of Namibia.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS— Contd.

श्री अजीत जोगी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, राष्ट्र को भविष्य में जो गैस की आवश्यकता ईंधन के लिए, ऊर्जा के लिए, रासायनिक खाद के लिए होगी, उसको देखते हुए यह आवश्यक है कि चूंकि हम राष्ट्र के अंदर ही पर्याप्त गैस उत्पादित नहीं कर पाएंगे, इसलिए बाहर से ली जाए। इस संदर्भ में यह जो ओमान से एम.ओ.यू. हुआ है, उसका स्वागत किया जाना चाहिए। किन्तु मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहूंगा कि क्या अभी जो राष्ट्र के अंदर गैस उत्पादित की जा रही है उसमें से अभी भी बहुत बड़ी गैस की मात्रा हम जला रहे हैं और उसको उपयोग में नहीं ला पा रहे हैं। अगर ऐसी स्थिति है, तो फिर कितनी गैस फ्लेअर हो रही है? दूसरे, मैं यह भी जानना चाहूंगा कि जो ओमान की पाईप लाईन आ रही है, इससे हमारे देश के कौन से भाग में गैस जाएगी और कौन से भाग में उस गैस के माध्यम से पॉवर का उत्पादन होगा, उसके माध्यम से रासायनिक खाद का उत्पादन होगा और कितने ईंधन की कमी की पूर्ति हो जाएगी? क्या इस गैस का कुछ हिस्सा मध्य प्रदेश को भी मिलने की सम्भावना है?

CAPT. SATISH SHARMA: Sir, part (i) of the hon. Member's question is on gas flaring. I am glad to inform the hon. Member through you, Sir, that the Gas Flaring Reduction Project, which is a multi-billion dollar project, is under way and by the year 1996, that is in the next two years, it will be completed. When it is completed, as far as gas flaring from the Western offshore is concerned, it will come to a technical zero level.

As far as the second part of the question is concerned, the whole country needs gas because there is a shortage of gas. Every State, including Madhya Pradesh, is demanding gas. Now, as far as Gujarat is concerned, the hon. Member, Shri Chimanbhai Mehta and other MPs are aware that there is a tremendous pressure for gas from Gujarat, the southern States and in fact, from all over tht country...

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Yes, southern States also.

SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Madhya Pradesh has been the hon. Minister's State.

CAPT. SATISH SHARMA: A demand of 21.34 million Standard Cubic Metres has been registered with the Gas Authority of India from Madhya Pradesh. It gives you some idea as to what kind of a demand is there from a State like Madhya Pradesh, Sir. Gujarat is even higher. The southern States are thirstly for gas and we have committed for a Southern Gas Grid. What we are looking forward to, and for future what is really needed is

this country, is a National Gas Grid so that wherever gas makes sense—business sense, economic sense, etc. gas is available. That will take some time. But, with an MOU having been signed with Oman and also with Iran, may be at one time, I hope, sooner than later, we will be in a position to supply gas nation-wide. But, to start with, through the MOU signed with Oman, we are expecting gas at the Land Falling Point, which is tentatively Gujarat, to be available around 1999.

SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL: Sir, I want to have information on two points from the respectable Minister. The first is that in Gujarat everyday a lot of gas is burnt and, I think, it causes a loss of crores of rupees per year. Now, because there is a demand from the State Government for use of that burning gas, I would like to know whether the Central Government has any plan to permit Gujarat to use that gas for domestic purpose so long as the Central Government do not plan to use it in some better way. Secondly, I would like to state that as Gujarat has a lot of gas and the gas of Gujarat is taken away from Gujarat to other places principles of natural justice demand that the Oman gas should be given priority in Gujarat. I would like to know whether the Government has decided such priorities and whether the claim of Gujarat will be accepted or not.

CAPT. SATISH SHARMA: Sir, most of the gas flaring which is taking place is taking place in the western off-shore. As far as Gujarat is concerned, only 0.7 million standard cubic metres a day is being flared which will come to an end, as I mentioned, in 1996. Now, during this interim period, if there are any specific projects with the Gujarat Government or if there is any other proposal which can be used may be as part of it, if it is technically feasible we will consider. Prima facie, I am not in a position to say whether it is technically feasible. Because of the Gas Reduction Flaring Project being under way, I think, it is not possible. If it is possible surely, we will consider that. As far as the second part of the question is concerned, I am aware of the needs of Gujarat when it comes to natural gas. The Oman pipeline, as I mentioned, as per our programme and as far as we understand will be completed by 1999. When that happens, we are talking about 56 million standard cubic metres a day of additional gas coming to the country. That will ease the situation not only in Gujarat but also in the rest of the country.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri John F. Fernandes.

SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES: Chairman, Sir, after signing the MOU with the Government of Oman, the hon'ble Minister was kind enough to make a suomotu statement in this House. Than I would like to know from the Minister whether this pipeline will be coastal or submarine through the ocean. The Minister did mention that there is an Expert Committee studying this problem. May I know from the hon'ble Minister whether any decision has been taken as to when the work will start on this submarine pipeline?

CAPT. SATISH SHARMA: Sir, the pipeline will be submarine pipeline, 1,000 kilometres long, taking a deep-sea route outside the territorial waters of Pakistan. The pipeline at places will be laid at depth in excess of 3,000 metres as I mentioned earlier. The pre-feasibility report is over and that indicates that it is feasible to have this direct deep-sea submarine pipeline from Oman to India. We are at a point. Where we are negotiating the principal terms of the long-term gas supply agreement with Oman. Once that is over, Oman will move on to phase II of the feasibility study which will look into certain technical issues which have to be resolved like the fabrication of suitable pipes to withstand the water pressure at those depths, the related welding technology which is required at those depths, development of remotely operated vehicles pertaining to the pipeline at those depths. So, all these technological issues

have to be resolved which will be resolved in phase II of the feasibility study which will only start after we agree to the principal terms which we are negotiating and that I hope will be completed by next month, by September.

*243. (The questioner (Shri Mohammed Afzal alias Meem Afzal) was absent, For answer Vide Col.... infra)

*244. (The questioners (Dr. Bapu Kaidate and Shrimati Kamla Sinha) were absent, For answer vide Col..... infra)

Attacks on security personnel in Jammu and Kashmir

*245. SHRI JAGMOHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) how many persons have been killed/injured/abducted in the State of Jammu and Kashmir during the period from January 1, 1994 to July 20th, 1994;

(b) out of the security officials killed/injured, how many belong to the army, how many to paramilitary forces and how many to Jammu and Kashmir police;

(c) out of the civilians killed/injured, how many were killed in cross firing and how many were victims of militants, killings;

(d) how many times were the security forces attacked by the militants during the aforesaid period;

(e) how many rocket attacks were launched on vital installations, Radio/TV stations and public/private buildings; and

(f) what additional measures are being taken to meet the increasing freqlency and ferocity of the attacks of militants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (f) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (e) As per information made available by the State Government of J & K, during the period from January 1, 1994 to July 15, 1994, 526 civilians were killed and 956 were injured in terrorist violence, and 145 persons were kidnapped by the militants. In 1275 attacks on security forces, 102 security forces personnel were killed and 359 injured. During the same period 678 militants were killed. There were 40 rocket attacks by militants, which included attacks on vital installations and public and private building during this period.

(f) With a view to flushing out the militants curbing their activities and containing violence despite desparate efforts by the militants and their mentors across the border to escalate the same, anti-militancy operations are being conducted in a sustained manner. The operations are being closely reviewed and monitored and whenever necessary, the presence of security forces is being augmented in the vulnerable areas to provide protection to the people and security of vital installations, etc.

SHRI JAGMOHAN: Sir, the data given in the statement shows that both in scale and intensity, the terrorist activities have increased. From the data collected by me in reply to other Unstarred Questions in this session and the previous session, it is clear that 1,177 persons were killed in 1990, 1,393 persons were killed in 1991, 1,909 persons were killed in 1992. And from 1st January, 1993 up to the period for